

IDEA 0462

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Materiel Staff, DPD

7 SEP 1961

SUBJECT: Reliability of Aircraft 358

1. During the last several weeks aircraft number 358 has had a series of malfunctions which reduces its reliability factor to a point far below Project standards. Further, the frequent fixes, which at best have been only temporary, have naturally resulted in a lowering of confidence and attendant reluctance to consider the aircraft operationally ready.

2. It is recognized that the maintenance and inspections on this aircraft have been on a "minimum out time" basis for several months. Conceivably these methods are now catching up with us and may be the principal reason for our current problems. Regardless of why the condition exists, I am sure you agree that the aircraft must be given whatever attention that is required to bring it back up to Project standards.

3. It is requested that this matter be given your immediate attention and that this office be coordinated with on plans and/or actions which may affect, adversely, our operational capability.

SIGNED

[Redacted Signature]

Acting Chief, Special Projects Branch, DPD

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